



RECREATION & CULTURE POLICY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

3 FEBRUARY 2026

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that a **RECREATION & CULTURE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE** on **Tuesday, 3 February 2026.**

Scott Maunder
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For apologies please contact Executive Support on 6393 8391.

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1 INTRODUCTION

MEMBERS

Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor)(Chairperson), Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

1.1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

1.2 Declaration of pecuniary interests, significant non-pecuniary interests and less than significant non-pecuniary interests

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons given for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussion or voting on that matter, and requires that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee Members now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Recreation & Culture Policy Committee at this meeting.

2 GENERAL REPORTS

2.1 Grounds Maintenance - Waratah Sports Club 2024-2025

RECORD NUMBER: 2025/2693

AUTHOR: Kate Shepherd, Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details works carried out by Waratah Sports Club utilising the grant funding from Council during the 2024/2025 calendar year.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “2.1 Deliver sport and recreational facilities, programs & activities that are accessible and affordable to service the community into the future”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report on Grounds Maintenance – Waratah Sports Club be noted and
2. That Council continue the annual support for Waratah Sports Club on the same basis as previous years.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council’s key risk categories and the following comments are provided:

Service/Project Delivery	Delays in scheduled maintenance could impact service quality and community expectations.
Financial	Nil, funding co-contributed and from successful grant applications.
Reputation/Political	Failure to maintain grounds may lead to negative public perception and Council criticism.
Environment	Improper maintenance practices could harm local biodiversity or breach sustainability goals.
Compliance	Non-adherence to regulatory standards may result in penalties or legal action.
People & WHS	Unsafe work practices could lead to staff injuries or public safety incidents.
Information Technology/ Cyber Security	Nil.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Council resolved to provide an annual management and maintenance donation to Orange Waratah Sports Club at its meeting 12 September 2022 through to end 2024-25 financial year.

2.1 Grounds Maintenance - Waratah Sports Club 2024-2025**RESOLVED - 22/358****Cr K Duffy/Cr D Mallard***That Council resolves:*

- 1 That Council provide a donation for the annual management and maintenance of Orange Waratahs Sporting Club sporting fields for \$111,052 for the 2022/23 financial year being the 2021/22 amount of \$104,668 indexed for the current year by annual inflation to 30 June 2022 of 6.1 per cent;*
- 2 That the donation be included in Council's Delivery Plan for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years;*
- 3 For future financial years, the donation be indexed annually by CPI; and*
- 4 Expenditure to be included within the existing yearly allocation for City Presentation.*

For: Cr J Hamling, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

Council received a report from the club detailing the activities undertaken during the past financial year totalling \$203,028.49, excluding the estimate of 1,600 volunteer hours provided by club members or the clubs own financial contributions and, contributions from user of the facilities. A copy is attached to this report.

In addition to the maintenance works carried out, the club also completed the following major improvements utilising grant funding and contributions from members and volunteers:

- Completion of irrigation for the second rugby field/overflow car park
- Upgrading the AFL field lighting to LED to reduce ongoing operational costs
- Drainage improvements and gravel re-surfacing of the all-sports car park to ease congestion and reduce dust (noting that bitumen sealing will require external funding)
- Continuing upgrades to lighting on the main field, including improved training lights
- Installation of epoxy flooring in the new change rooms
- Upgrading and concreting of the main field entry stairs
- Purchase of a new mower and finishing roller
- Installation of lighting and poles on the Simmo training field

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Waratah Sports Club Maintenance Acquittal 2024-25, D26/3578 [↓](#)

Attachment 1 Waratah Sports Club Maintenance Acquittal 2024-25



Friday, 5 December 2025

Mr Scott Maunder
Director, Community Recreation and Cultural Services
Orange City Council
PO Box 35
Orange NSW 2800

Dear Mr Maunder,

Grounds Maintenance Acquittal 2024–25 – Orange Waratah Sports Club

On behalf of the Directors and user groups of the Orange Waratah Sports Club (OWSC), I would like to thank Orange City Council for its continued support of the Club's grounds maintenance activities over the past year.

The past 12 months have been exceptionally busy for the OWSC as we have continued maintenance and progressed development across our North Orange sports and recreation precinct.

In addition to regular maintenance, we have completed several major improvements identified in our Management Plan, including:

- Completion of irrigation for the second rugby field/overflow car park
- Upgrading the AFL field lighting to LED to reduce ongoing operational costs
- Drainage improvements and gravel re-surfacing of the all-sports car park to ease congestion and reduce dust (noting that bitumen sealing will require external funding)
- Continuing upgrades to lighting on the main field, including improved training lights
- Installation of epoxy flooring in the new change rooms
- Upgrading and concreting of the main field entry stairs
- Purchase of a new mower and finishing roller
- Installation of lighting and poles on the Simmo Training field

Council's support continues to be an essential part of our maintenance and development budget. A visit to the complex clearly demonstrates that the investment is delivering strong value for the community. It is also important to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of our volunteers; without their commitment, we simply could not maintain our facilities to their current high standard. This year, we unfortunately saw the retirement of two long-serving volunteers, and replacing their valuable service has proven challenging due to limited volunteer availability.

Orange Waratah Sports Club Ltd
36 Telopea Way, ORANGE NSW 2800 AUSTRALIA
PO Box 633, ORANGE NSW 2800 AUSTRALIA

Attachment 1 Waratah Sports Club Maintenance Acquittal 2024-25

Below is a summary of Council-funded expenditure for the past 12 months. Please note that this reflects only Council's direct financial contribution and excludes the significant volunteer hours, the Club's own financial input, and contributions made by user groups.

Fertiliser: \$21,129.33

Improvements: \$54,098.99

Lease: \$12,158.74

Lighting: \$64,276.81

Line Marking: \$10,070.33

Loan: \$23,021.93

Maintenance: \$17,572.37

Mowing: Volunteers

Surrounds: \$700.00

Total Expenditure: \$203,028.49

Conservative estimate: 1,600 volunteer hours

Council's contribution has been fully expended or committed to grounds maintenance. A detailed itemised breakdown is available on request.

Guided by our Management Plan—as well as feedback from neighbouring residents—the following priorities have been identified for 2025–26 and beyond (not in order of priority):

- Bitumen re-surfacing of the all-sports car park (a major project requiring external funding)
- Construction of shelters/dugouts for the main field
- Replacement and upgrade of aging machinery
- Upgrading the club's power supply, including the aging transformer, to meet current and future demand
- Installation of access lighting and pathways from surrounding neighbourhoods to improve community access and safety
- Upgrading the basketball court playing surface to support its increasing use
- Exploring options to upgrade the playground to be more inclusive for all ages and abilities and better reflect local community demographics

We look forward to continuing our productive partnership for the benefit of the Orange and district community.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Sinclair
President
Orange Waratah Sports Club